



HF Happenings



South African Radio League * Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925
www.sarl.org.za www.iaru.org www.iaru-r1.org

June

31 May to 2 June - Karoo Cultural Festival, Prince Alfred Hamlet, Ceres
1 and 2 - IARU Region 1 CW Field Day; RSGB CW Field Day
2 - Comrades Marathon
6 to 9 - Wacky Wine Weekend, Robertson
7 to 9 - Dr. Livingstone's Bicentenary Carnival and Festival, Livingstone, Zambia
9 - ZS4 Sprint
13 to 16 - Royal MacNab, Lady Grey
15 - Radio Technology in Action, Durban
16 - Youth Day; Father's Day
17 - Public Holiday; World QRP Day
20 to 24 - SARL Top Band QSO Party
21 - Winter Solstice; Schools close
22 and 23 - ARRL Field Day
25 to 27 - GAREC 2013, Zürich
28 to 30 - Ham Radio 2013, Friedrichshafen; Kirkwood Wildlife Festival, Kirkwood
29 and 30 - Christmas in die winter, Tulbagh
27 June to 7 July - National Arts Festival, Grahamstown
28 June to 7 July - Oyster Festival, Knysna
29 June to 2 July - Dr. Livingstone's Bicentenary Fishing Competition, Livingstone, Zambia

HAM RADIO



Issue: 559 ½

June 2013

Busted QSO

Who noticed there was no HF Happenings 558? Only Richard, ZS6UK, noticed that the editor chappie missed a number between 557 and 559!

The rest of you each win a weekend for two in a chopper tent on the Gen de Wet Training area - transport, meals, drinks and anything else for your own pocket. Next time it will be 40 lashes and keelhauling while being forced to listening to "Op n trein na Pretoria" sung in Morse Code!

SARL@HOME on Saturday 15 June looks at Contesting

Join Geoff Levey ZS6GRL for the first SARL@HOME event on Saturday 15 June at the National Amateur Radio Centre to learn more about contesting. SARL@HOME is a new quarterly event presented by the SARL to show just how much fun amateur radio is.

Geoff will share with you the various terms used in contest rules, how to submit a log and what information is required in the log, and run through the operation of N1MM. Bring a memory stick and take home a copy of the contest logging software.

SARL@HOME starts at 10:00 and will end at around 12:30. It is free to SARL members and R50 to non-members. Refreshments will be served. With the main SARL HF contest coming up soon this is the ideal event for newcomers to amateur radio and those who have not taken serious part in contesting. Learn just how much fun it can be if you know how. To assist with catering, drop an email to admin@sarl.org.za or call Mariska at 011 675 2393 to say you are coming.

Contest results

The Autumn QRP Contest. There was a lot of activity in this contest which is encouraging. Unfortunately only 10 logs were received. The results are as follows:

- 1st Andre Botes, ZS2ACP - 280 points
- 2nd Francois Reynecke, ZS6FDX - 259 points
- 3rd Edmar Willers, ZS6UT - 192 points
- 4th Eddie Leighton, ZS6BNE - 108 points
- 5th Pierre van Deventer, ZS6A - 96 points
- 6th Vincent Harrison, ZS6BTY - 95 points
- 7th Barry Nugent, ZS2NF - 50 points
- 8th Port Elizabeth ARS, ZS2PE - 44 points

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Current Summits-on-the-Air (SOTA) activities are announced at
www.sotawatch.org

And more SOTA information can be found at www.sota.org.uk



Have **YOU** done
anything today
to Promote
Amateur Radio?

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9th Geoff Levey, ZS6GRL - 40 points

10th Tienie Herbst, ZS6MHH - 32 points

The ZS3 Sprint. The Sprint was well supported on 5 May 2013. 108 stations were active during the sprint and we received 20 logs, of which two were used as control logs. The results are as follows for the hour on the air:

1st Christo van Rensburg, ZS3R - 102 points

2nd Jan Botha, ZS4JAN - 86 points

3rd Johan van Zijl, ZS4DZ - 61 points

4th Mitchel Mynhardt, ZS6YH - 56 points

5th Ken Gurr, ZS6KN - 53 points

6th Eddie Leighton, ZS6BNE - 52 points

7th Lukas Holtzhauzen, ZS6LH - 51 points

8th Brendon Muller, ZS4BM - 46 points

9th Theunis Potgieter, ZS2EC - 45 points

10th Romeo Nardini, ZS6ARQ - 43 points

11th Warren Reilly, ZS4W, and Edmar Willers, ZS6UT - 35 points

13th Geoff Levey, ZS6GRL - 22 points (the Laird of Loch Ness)

14th Evan Seligmann, ZS6ELI - 21 points

15th Barry Nugent, ZS2NF - 20 points

16th L Tromp, ZS1ONI - 19 points

17th Peet Pretorius, ZS4VP, and Heather Holland, ZS6EY - 18 points

Control logs - Northern Cape ARC, ZS3NC, and the Namaqualand Aero Sport Association, ZS3FLY (NASA)



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SARL Top Band QSO Party

This is a fun activity to promote contacts on 160 metres between radio amateurs in Southern African countries and to encourage radio amateurs to apply for the SARL Top Band Award.

The QSO Party runs from 00:00 UTC (02:00 CAT) on Thursday 20 June 2013 to 00:00 UTC (02:00 CAT) on Monday 24 June 2013, with phone from 1 840 - 1 850 kHz and CW activity from 1 810 - 1 838 kHz. Each station can be worked once per mode i.e. once on Phone and again with CW.

The exchange is a RS(T) report and provincial or country abbreviation. Following the QSO, the station must change the **dial** frequency by at least 2 KHz for the next QSO, unless a period of 10 minutes has lapsed between contacts. The frequency of each QSO must be shown on the log sheet. The event is open to all licensed amateurs that have access to the 160 metre band.

Each contact will count three (3) points. Bonus Points: Each South African call area and each DXCC country worked will be awarded with five (5) additional bonus points. Total Score = (Total QSO points) and (Bonus points). Log sheets must be submitted by 1 July to contest@sarl.org.za.



South African Islands-on-the-Air, part the third

I was a bit hasty in finishing off with IOTA AF-064 in the last issue. There are two more islands in this group.

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Seal Island, False Bay

Bruce Dyer and Les Underhill, Marine and Coastal Management and Avian Demography Unit

Seal Island in False Bay consists essentially of a huge granite rock 2 ha in area, with no beaches or vegetation. It lies almost centrally in the northern part of False Bay, 5,7 km offshore. A radio mast, built on the island during World War II, was a conspicuous landmark in the bay until it was blown over in a winter storm in 1970. All that remains of this is some rusty, twisted metal. There are also ruins of some huts and a few structures from the sealing and guano-collection era. Some rock inscriptions made by sealers in the 1930s are still evident. Guano collection ceased in 1949.

About 100 years ago (i.e. about 1880), the great voyage of the HMS *Challenger* brought the naturalist Moseley to the Cape. The following extract from his notes brings out the changes that have taken place since then - or at least one of them. *"I paid a visit to an island in False Bay, called Seal Island. It is a mere shelving rock, on which it is only possible to land on very favourable occasions. The whole place is a rookery of the Jackass Penguin."*

Nowadays, this island supports the largest Cape Fur Seal, *Arctocephalus pusillus*, colony in the Western Cape; up to 75 000 seals occur. The growth of the population of seals was held in check by a quota system until the early 1980s. The market for fur seal products crashed in 1983 and seal harvesting no longer occurs on Seal Island. As a result, the seal population has increased dramatically in recent decades. The seals attract Great White Sharks, *Charcharodon charcharius*, and an ecotourism industry to view the sharks is slowly developing.

Seal Island continues to support a small population of African Penguins. The penguins have been provided with artificial nest sites, and this has increased their breeding success. In spite of the increasing seal population, the number of penguins has remained stable since the 1980s, and about 80 pairs breed each year.

Other bird species which breed regularly on the island are White breasted Cormorants and Bank Cormorants. Cape Cormorants bred for the first time in 2000; there were 30 nesting pairs. A handful of Cape Wagtails almost certainly breed on the island. There are a few Turnstones in summer, but no African Black Oystercatchers.

Cape Gannets bred on the island in the 17th century, but it is not documented when this colony folded. Kelp Gulls last bred in the 1950s. They remain common scavengers on the island, though.

The Western Cape population of Great White Pelicans bred on Seal Island from about 1930 until 1954. Before 1930, they were breeding at Dyer Island and at Quoin Rock. They left Dyer Island because of disturbance by guano-scrappers. A growing population of Cape Fur Seals displaced them from Quoin Rock because of competition for space. About 20 - 30 pairs of pelicans bred at Seal Island. However, they were subjected to considerable disturbance from sealers and guano collectors. By 1950, competition for space with seals forced them to move off the ground and breed on the roofs of the huts on the island. The final straw was the destruction of these nests when the roofs were repainted. The last breeding was recorded in 1954, and non-breeding birds visited the island until 1956. From 1955, Great White Pelicans have bred on Dassen Island, and continue to do so. The popu-

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Aerial view of Seal Island in False Bay. Photo B.M. Dyer



Sealers' rock inscriptions on Seal Island. Photo B.M. Dyer



Seals, seals and more seals... Photo B.M. Dyer





Dyer Island's obelisk
crowned by Kelp Gull
Photo L.G. Underhill

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lation there has grown to about 800 pairs.

Seal Island is a nature reserve of the Western Cape Nature Conservation Board. It has no visitor access facilities. As observed by Moseley, landing on the island is difficult. It is dependent on sea conditions and usually requires a leap onto mussel- or barnacle-covered rocks.

The island has a bird list totalling 24 species, which have been seen either on the island or in the immediate vicinity.

Dyer Island

This small, 20-ha island is the easternmost of the chain of seabird islands of the Western Cape. Moving east along the coast, there are no more significant seabird islands until the cluster of islands in Algoa Bay, near Port Elizabeth in the Eastern Cape is reached. A tiny island near Mossel Bay is called Seal Island and, as its name implies, has rather few seabirds.

Dyer Island is about 5 km offshore, 12 km southeast of Danger Point. The nearest fairly well known places are Hermanus and Gansbaai. Cape Agulhas is another 60 km farther east along the coast.

In the 1970s, this island supported the largest colony of African Penguins, about 25 000 pairs. By 2000, the population had plummeted to around 2 000 pairs, and the Dyer Island colony was the sixth largest. The breeding population has remained more or less stable at this level between 2000 and 2005. Scarcity of food is the most likely cause of the decline. This is, in part, due to overfishing, but is also likely to be due to changes in the migration patterns of pilchards and anchovy, the fish species on which they mainly feed. Seals, mainly from the adjacent Geyser Island, also take a heavy toll on penguins. It is thought that penguins, which fledge from Dyer Island, do not return there to breed, but recruit to the new colonies at Stony Point, the Boulders and Robben Island, and even to Dassen Island. At the three new colonies, the rates of increase seem to be greater than what could be sustained by the breeding populations at these colonies.

Roseate Terns were first recorded breeding on the island in 1907. The lighthouse keeper at the time was adamant that they had not bred there in the previous 30 years during which he had been based on the island. Although the records thereafter are somewhat erratic, it is likely that Roseate Terns bred on the island almost annually until the 1970s. No breeding was recorded between 1975 and 1995, although sight records of the species were occasionally made over the next 20 years. Breeding was again recorded in July 1996, when a single nest was found. Since then, a small number of pairs have bred each year, and several young are known to have fledged. Roseate Terns are especially sensitive to disturbance while breeding, and they desert their nests readily. The only other breeding islands in southern Africa are in Algoa Bay, and this species is classified as "Endangered" in the South African Red Data Book.

Phil Whittington, while a PhD student at the Avian Demography Unit studying penguins, went outside into the yard between the buildings late one night in October 1995, and instantly recognised a call he had only ever heard on tape before - Leach's Storm Petrel. Together with Bruce Dyer, of Marine and Coastal Management, they realised that the calls were not only coming from the skies above, but also from deep inside the thick dry stone walls which mark the edges of the yard. A year later, breeding was proved when they found eggs at the end of a burrow in

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Leach's Storm Petrel,
Oceanodroma leucorhoa,
at Dyer Island. The grey
line down the centre of
the rump, visible in the
top photograph, is diag-
nostic. Photo L.G. Under-
hill



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these walls. They had thus added a breeding species to the South African bird list, and the first proof that any species belonging to the procellariiforms bred in southern Africa. Annual surveys have shown that approximately 20 pairs breed annually on Dyer Island, and that several of the other offshore islands also support small populations. Previously Leach's Storm Petrel had been regarded as a rare visitor to the region, from breeding grounds in North America and Europe.



This is one of the dry stone walls on Dyer Island in which the Leach's Storm Petrels have their nests. Crowned Cormorants are building nests along the top of this section of wall, January 2001. Photo Les Underhill

A range of other seabirds breed on the island: Whitebreasted, Cape, Bank and Crowned Cormorants, Kelp Gulls and Hartlaub's Gulls, and Swift Terns. Huge roosts of terns, mainly the migratory Common and Sandwich Terns, occur in summer. Antarctic Terns, which breed on the subantarctic islands, roost here in winter.

The earliest definite record of Great White Pelicans breeding on Dyer Island is dated about 1869, and there are also records from 1898, 1913 and 1919. From about 1930, they bred on Seal Island in False Bay. Sometime in the 1920s, persecution by guano collectors on Dyer Island caused them to desert this island.

One seabird conspicuously missing from the Dyer Island is the Cape Gannet. The island is about halfway between the widely-separated colonies at Malgas Island in Saldanha Bay and Bird Island in Algoa Bay. Gannets forage at distances of up to about 150 km from their colonies while breeding, so there is certainly "space" for a colony here. Many gannets feed in the sea around the island, so there is apparently food for them. There is a record of a pair of Cape Gannets breeding on the island early in the 20th century, but there are now some doubts about the validity of the record.



Part of the large Cape Gannet colony on Dyer Island, November 2000. Photo L.G. Underhill

Little Egrets bred on the island for the first time in 1999, when there was one nest. In 2000, there were four. A few pairs of Egyptian Geese have recently started breeding on the island.

African Black Oystercatchers breed along the shoreline of Dyer Island at a high density, and the island holds more than 1% of the world population of this "Near-threatened" species. Kittlitz's and Whitefronted Plovers breed in the open areas in interior of the island.

Dyer Island is a nature reserve belonging to Cape Nature, but has no visitor access facilities. This is understandable both in terms of the sensitivity of the island's bird to disturbance, and because it is one of the trickiest of the offshore islands to reach - the best landing place on the island can only be used in fairly calm conditions. In the 1970s, several scientists were stranded on the island for nearly two weeks, because the boatman due to fetch them deemed the landing too risky. Even today, scientists planning visits to Dyer Island give themselves a window of several days and hope that a crossing will be possible on one of them.



Cage diving to view a Great White Shark near Dyer Island Photo L.G. Underhill

Adjacent to Dyer Island is Geyser Island. This island supports one of the largest Cape Fur Seal colonies in the Western Cape. The seals attract Great White Sharks, and the channel between the two islands is popularly known as "Shark Alley". *Very popular on the national Geographic channels on DSTV!!*

Dyer Island also lies between two of the most important "whale bays" along the southern coast, and there is considerable whale traffic between them. Hermanus, with its spring Whale Festival, is on Walker Bay to the west; the large bay off the De Hoop Nature Reserve lies to the east. The population of Southern Right Whales, which calves in the sheltered bays along this coastline, is increasing by

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Wilfred Chivell of Dyer Island Cruises takes researchers to and from the island. He has the boat-based whale watching licence for the area, and does ecotourism cruises around Dyer Island on the *Whale Whisperer*
dic@isales.co.za
www.whalewatchsa.com/
 Photo L.G. Underhill

about 7% per year. A growing marine ecotourism industry, operating out of Gansbaai and Kleinbaai, is based on these three big S's: the seal, the shark and the Southern Right Whale.

Dyer Island was named after a Polynesian seaman, Samson Dyer, who was the first to be stationed on the island, in the early eighteenth century. At this time the island was used primarily by Dyer for seal harvesting (from the Cape Fur Seal colony based on adjacent Geyser Rock), and the remnants of a few boiling pots and fireplaces still stand near the living area. Guano scrapers and Seal harvesters used the island in previous times, a detailed account of which is given in "Dagbreek oor Dyer eiland" (Fourie 1999).

IOTA AF-077

We now come to IOTA AF-077, Western Cape Province South group S34 09 03.3 E22 07 11.4, There is only one island in this group and that is Seal Island in Mossel Bay, GPS Coordinates: S34°09' 03 and E22°07' 09 (or follow the pong!)

The South African Fur Seal has a breeding colony on an island just offshore of the main beach in Mossel Bay, called Seal Island. This island is about 2 km from the Harbour and is about 100 m long and 50 m wide. It is easily visible from land.

The Department of Sea Fisheries is responsible for the Island and its population of seals. It counts the seal population from the air at regular intervals. Currently there are some 4 500 to 5 000 seals on the island. No culling is done on this Island as the population remains fairly stable due to adult seals moving away to join new colonies. These adults usually move westwards towards the West Coast where there is more food for them at present. (*and becoming shark food!*)

Tours by boat trip are offered every day from the harbour and around seal island to get a close-up sight (and smell!) of the colony.

Seal Island, Mossel Bay



Amateur Radio on Seal Island

Looking at the RSGB IOTA web page, I find mention of 3 dates, but I think only the first date was the activation of AF-077.

19 and 20 October 1996, a Saturday and Sunday, ZS23I was active from Seal Island. QSL via Barry, ZS1FJ.

I also find that on Thursday 25 March 1999, ZS23I was spotted on the DX Clusters. Also on Monday to Wednesday 19 to 21 May 2003, ZS23I was again seen on the DX Clusters. Maybe I am wrong, and there were activations on these dates.

IOTA AF-079

The last IOTA group is AF-079, the Eastern Cape Province group, S 31°07 - 34°20 E 23°35 - 30°15. The bay contains six named islands in two groups of three that according to BirdLife International "are of considerable importance as they are the only islands along a 1 777 km stretch of coastline between Cape Agulhas and Inhaca Island in Mozambique." The combined surface area of these islands is said to be 40 ha.

Close inshore, near the new Ngquru harbour development at Coega, on the north-eastern outskirts of Port Elizabeth, is the St Croix group, consisting of a main island of that name and two lesser islets, Jahleel Island just off the Ngquru breakwater and Brenton Island on the seaward side. The second group consists of Bird, Seal and Stag Islands. All six islands and their adjacent waters are declared

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nature reserves and form part of the Addo Elephant National Park. The islands are closed to the public.

The St. Croix group

St. Croix Island at S 33°47'58" E 25°46'11" is 3,9 km from the nearest land and rises to 59 m. The BirdLife fact sheet states the 12 ha island is only 58 m above sea level. It adds that the island is rocky and "supports minimal vegetation." The island runs 700 m along a northwest, southeast axis and is about 360 m wide at its broadest - along the west coast. Its highest point is halfway along the north coast.

Brenton Island, S 33°49'3" E 25°45'54", is equally sparsely vegetated and is less than 20 m in elevation, and is roughly 250 m × 200 m in size with a northwest-southeast orientation. It is 5,75 km to sea from the nearest point on the mainland and 1,75 km south of St. Croix.

Jahleel, at less than 10 m in height, is just over 1 km from the closest beach and less than that from Ngquru's 2,6 km long eastern breakwater. Jahleel is about the same size as Brenton and has a north-south axis. It is 5,75 km west of St. Croix.

The Bird Island group

Vasco da Gama named this group of islands *Ilhéus Chãos* (low or flat islands). In 1755, the East Indiaman *Doddington* was wrecked here while underway from Dover to India. Most of the passengers and crew perished, but a few managed to make it to the islands where they were marooned for seven months until one of their number, a carpenter, was able to make a boat for them. The survivors subsisted primarily on fish, birds and eggs until they were able to reach land. The ship was carrying a significant quantity of gold and silver, some of which was illegally salvaged in more recent times. Bird Island was named by the survivors as they left the island in their boat.

Bird Island, S 33°50'26"S E 26°17'10", Seal Island and Stag Island lie in close proximity some 40 km east of the St Croix group or 53 km due east of Port Elizabeth and 7 km from the nearest landfall at Woody Cape - part of the Addo Elephant National Park. Bird Island has a lighthouse, erected in 1898 after a series of shipwrecks in the vicinity of the island. Doddington Rock, West rock and East Reef lay just South-West of the group of islands.

According to *BirdLife*, at 19 hectares, Bird Island is the largest of the Algoa Bay islands. It is relatively flat and rises to 9 m. Seal Island is 0,6 hectares in size and lies 360 m north of Bird Island. Stag Island is even smaller at 0,1 hectares and is 320 m north-west of Bird Island. "Much of the island group is covered by sparse growth of mixed vegetation dominated by the fleshy herb *Mesembryanthemum* (fig marigold/icicle plants). *Tetragonia* (Duneweed) and *Chenopodium* (Goosefoot) form localised thickets that provide cover for some seabirds," the fact sheet says.

Bird and wildlife. The BirdLife fact sheet adds that 14 species of seabirds, several species of shorebirds and 33 species of terrestrial birds have been recorded on the islands. Eight seabird species were known to breed on the islands in



St. Croix Island seen from the nearest landfall at Hougham Park, just east of the Coega harbour development. From here, the island is about 4 km to sea. Two disused stone bungalows, used by guano collectors and then by the University of Port Elizabeth for research purposes are visible.



Bird Island with its huge gannetry, lighthouse dating from 1852 and cottages built at the heyday of guano scraping in the foreground. Across the channel from Bird is Seal Island (which has no seals!) And a bit to the right is Stag island (which has no stags!)



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2007. "These are the only islands off southern mainland Africa where Roseate Tern, *Sterna dougallii*, breeds regularly."

The islands are also home to 43% of the global population of the African Penguin, *Spheniscus demersus*, the majority of which are on St Croix. St Croix also holds a locally significant breeding population of Cape Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax capensis*.

Bird Island is one of only six breeding sites in the world for the Cape Gannet, *Morus capensis*. The Kelp Gull, *Larus dominicanus*, and the African Oystercatcher, *Haematopus moquini* are found throughout the Algoa Bay complex. The island group is also known to hold large numbers of Antarctic Tern, *Sterna vittate*, which in winter roost on the island in their thousands (regularly holding between 10% and 20% of the estimated total Afrotropical non-breeding population)." The island is also home to Cape Fur Seals, *Arctocephalus pusillus*.

Yes, there has been amateur radio activity from IOTA AF-079, but that is for HF Happenings 560!

African DX

Ghana, 9G. Hans, PB2T, will be active as 9G5AA from Ghana between 2 and 7 June, while presenting an Amateur Radio Administrative Course. Hans will be active on the HF bands using phone and CW as time allows. Please Note: The call sign 9G5AA was reissued to PB2T in 2013 - previous operations were all by members of the Voodoo Contest Group. QSL only via PB2T.

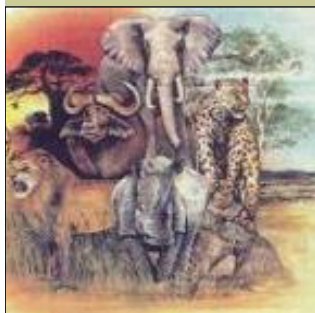
Rwanda, 9X. Kiyo, JR1IZM/9X0AM, is once again back in Kigali because of his work. However, his QSL Manager JO1CRA states there may not be any operations due to his work load.

Ivory Coast, TU5. Dim, F5SWB, will be active as TU5DF from Port-Bouët, Abidjan, starting at the end of June through to sometime in October. Activity will be on HF bands, mostly on CW but also on SSB and PSK31 sometimes. QSL via F5SWB. Please include 2 USDs and a SAE to cover mail costs for direct QSL coming from outside of Europe. Please include 1 USD and a SAE to cover mail costs for direct QSLs inside Europe.

Senegal, 6V7. Luc, F5RAV, will once again be active as 6V7T from Le Calao Resort, La Somome, between 9 and 17 October. He will be operating from the QTH of Jean-Francois, 6W7RV. Activity will be on SSB and PSK31 and on 40 to 10 metres (including 17 and 12m with a dipole only). A side trip to N'gor Island (AF-045) is planned for three days during this period. QSL via only direct to his home call sign. See details on QRZ.com. Also, visit his blog page at <http://f5rav.free.fr>

Republic of the Congo, TN5. Once again in close cooperation between the DAGOE Foundation, Mercy Ships and 4 Dutch radio amateurs, planning is being done for a DXpedition to the Republic of the Congo. The Team will stay in Pointe Noire between 28 September and 11 October. This is the groups fourth such operation/project. For their previous projects in Liberia, 5L2MS, Benin, TY1MS, and Sierra Leone, 9L5MS, the team was very honoured and proud to be rewarded in 2013 for their achievements with the Yasme Excellence Award 2012.

The team will use the call sign TN5MS for this coming activity. Operators mentioned are Arie, PA3A (CW and SSB), Ad, PA8AD (CW and SSB), Arie, PA3AN.



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(SSB and RTTY) and Marian, PD1AEG. Activity will probably be on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY. The equipment consists of 3 transceivers and linears. The antennas are verticals for 160 to 30 m and beams for 20 to 10 m. For 160 and 80 m, extra receiving antennas will be used to improve station reception capability. If conditions allow it and permission is received, they will try to activate 6 m. They take special care to listen for remote locations and small stations. The goal of the team is to work as many different stations as possible in the different modes. All donations and surplus from the QSL will be transferred to the Mercy Ships Charity Project. QSL via PA3AWW, by the Bureau or direct (see info on the Web page). Also, QSLs can be requested with a donation via the OQSL request service on the Web page. LoTW will be uploaded 6 months after the DXpedition when logs are checked. The team is not using eQSL for answering QSL. For more details and updates, visit their Web page at <http://www.tn5ms.nl/index.php>

Mozambique, C8, (Update). An international team of operators will be active as C82DX from Xai Xai (WW Loc KG64) between 15 and 22 October. Operators mentioned are Doug, N1DG, Tom, N4XP, Jose, CT1EEB, Franz, DJ9ZB, Max, I8NHJ, Mike, N6MZ, Ray, N9JA, Dave, WB4JTT, Charles, W6OAT, Chris, ZS6EZ (C92Z), Tjerk, ZS6P (C91TJL), and Christian, ZS6RI.

Activity will be on 160 to 10 metres using CW, SSB and RTTY. Suggested frequencies are CW - 1 826.5, 3 523, 5 405, 7 023, 10 103, 14 023, 18 079, 21 023, 24 894 and 28 023 kHz; SSB - 3 790, 5 403.5, 7 082, 14 185, 18 140, 21 285, 24 955 and 28 485 kHz; RTTY - 3 580, 7 035, 10 142, 18 099, 21 080, 24 912 and 28 080 kHz; 6M - 50 107/CW and 50 107/SSB

No QSL route has been mentioned yet. According to their web page (which is now functional) on 29 May, "In October a group of experienced DX operators will endeavour to put as many of you into our log on 160 and 80 metres as possible. We will operate on the HF bands during daylight hours, but our purpose is to meet the large demand on the aforementioned bands. Please visit this website as the operation gets closer for further details." The C82DX Web page is now available at <http://c82dx.com>

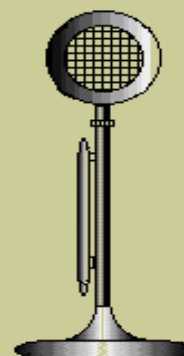
Contest Calendar

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, Data
19:00 - 20:30 UTC 3 June
Mode: RTTY, PSK
Bands: 80 m Only
Classes: (none)
Exchange: RST and serial no
QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
Multipliers: (none)
Score Calculation: (see rules)
Submit logs by: 23:59 UTC 10 June 2013
Upload log at:
www.vhfcc.org/cgi-bin/hfenter.pl
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at:
www.rsgbcc.org/hf/rules/2013/r80mcc.shtml

ARS Spartan Sprint
01:00 - 03:00 UTC 4 June
Mode: CW
Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10m
Classes: Skinny; Tubby
Max power: 5 watts
Exchange: RST, state, province or country and power
Work stations: Once per band
Submit logs by: 6 June 2013
E-mail logs to: spartansprint@yahoo.com
Mail logs to: (none)
Find rules at: www.arsqrp.blogspot.com/

NCCC Sprint Ladder
02:30 - 03:00 UTC 7 June
Mode: CW

(Continued on page 10)



This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 3 to 10 June 2013



(Continued from page 9)

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: (see rules)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 9 June 2013

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

www.3830scores.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

www.ncccsprint.com/rules.html

HA3NS Sprint Memorial Contest

17:30 - 18:00 UTC 7 June (40 m) and
18:00 - 18:30 UTC 7 June (80 m)

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40 m

Classes: Single Op

Exchange: HACWG Members: RST and Membership no; non-Members: RST and NM

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: (none)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points

Submit logs by: 22 June 2013

E-mail logs to: ha3kna@tolna.net

Mail logs to: Radio Club, 7100 Szekszard, Rakoczi u. 16., Hungary

Find rules at:

[http://radioamator.honlapepites.hu/?](http://radioamator.honlapepites.hu/?PHPSES-)

[PHPSES-](http://radioamator.honlapepites.hu/?PHPSES-)

[SID=e57dd37c356355de9489e83e42&p=1280](http://radioamator.honlapepites.hu/?PHPSES-SID=e57dd37c356355de9489e83e42&p=1280)

DRCG Long Distance RTTY Contest

00:00 - 07:59 UTC, 16:00 - 23:59 UTC
8 June and 08:00 - 15:59 UTC 9 June

Mode: RTTY

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op; Single Op 6 Hours; Single Op Unlimited; Multi-Single; SWL Exchange: RST, CQ Zone no and 4-digit time (UTC)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: Each VK, VE, JA and W call area and each DXCC country (other than VK, VE, JA, W) once per band; Each continent once

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total country/call area mults x total continent mults

Submit logs by: 1 August 2013

E-mail logs to: ldc@drcg.de

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

[http://drcg.de/index.php?](http://drcg.de/index.php?op-)

[op-](http://drcg.de/index.php?op-)

[tion=com_content&task=view&id=124&Itemid=84](http://drcg.de/index.php?op-tion=com_content&task=view&id=124&Itemid=84)

VK Shires Contest

06:00 UTC 8 June to 06:00 UTC 9 June

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: VK Single Op - rover or fixed; VK Multi-Two - rover or fixed; DX Single Op

Exchange: VK: RS(T) and Shire; non-VK: RS(T) and CQ Zone

Work stations: Once per band per mode; QSO Points: 1 point per QSO

Multipliers: Each VK shire once per band per mode; VK: Each CQ zone once per band per mode

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 1 July 2013

E-mail logs to:

richardneilsen@optusnet.com.au

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://vkshires.vk2bo.com/vk-shires-contest-rules.html>

Asia-Pacific SSB Sprint

11:00 - 13:00 UTC 8 June

Mode: SSB

Bands: 20, 15 m

(Continued on page 11)



(Continued from page 10)

Classes: Single Op Single Radio
 Max power: Asia Pacific: 150 watts
 Non-Asia Pacific: maximum legal
 Exchange: RS and serial no
 Work stations: Once per band
 QSO Points: Asia-Pacific: 1 point per QSO; Non-Asia-Pacific: 1 point per QSO with an Asia-Pacific station
 Multipliers: Each prefix once
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 15 June 2013
 E-mail logs to: apsprint@jsfc.org
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at:
<http://jsfc.org/apsprint/aprule.txt>

SKCC Weekend Sprintathon
 12:00 UTC 8 June to 24:00 UTC 9 June
 Mode: CW
 Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10, 6 m
 Classes: (none)
 Max operating hours: 24
 Exchange: RST, name, state, province or country and SKCC no or "NONE"
 Work stations: Once per band
 QSO Points: 1 point per QSO
 Bonus Points: (see rules)
 Multipliers: Each state, province or country once
 Score Calculation: Total score = (total QSO points x total mults) and bonus points
 Submit logs by: 15 June 2013
 Post log summary at:
<http://wes.m0trn.com/submission.php>
 Mail logs to: (none)
 Find rules at:
www.skccgroup.com/operating_activities/weekend_sprintathon/

Portugal Day Contest
 12:00 UTC 8 June to 11:59 UTC 9 June
 Mode: CW, SSB
 Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: Single Op - CW, SSB or mixed
 Exchange: CT: RS(T) and District; non-CT: RS(T) and serial no
 QSO Points: (see rules)
 Multipliers: Each CT region and each

DXCC country once per band
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 1 September 2013
 E-mail logs to: rep-concursos@rep.pt
 Mail logs to: REP Award/Contest Manager, Rua D. Pedro V, No. 7-40, 1250-092 Lisboa, Portugal
 Find rules at:
www.rep.pt/portugal_day_contest/rules.html

GACW WWSA CW DX Contest
 15:00 UTC 8 June to 15:00 UTC 9 June
 Mode: CW
 Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m
 Classes: Single Op All Band - QRP, low or high; Single Op Single Band - QRP, low or high; Multi-Single; Multi-Multi
 Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts; QRP: 5 watts
 Exchange: RST and CQ Zone no
 QSO Points: 0 points per QSO with same country; 1 point per QSO with different country, same continent; 3 points per QSO with different continent; Non-SA stations: 5 points per QSO with South America
 Multipliers: Each CQ zone once per band; Each country once per band
 Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults
 Submit logs by: 30 July 2013
 E-mail logs to: logs@wwsatest.org
 Mail logs to: GACW DX Contest, PO Box 9, B1875ZAA Wilde, Buenos Aires, Argentina
 Find rules at:
www.wwsatest.org/basesingles.htm



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Next Week's Contest

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint: 00:30 - 02:30 UTC 12 June
 CWops Mini-CWT Test: 13:00 - 14:00 UTC, 19:00 - 20:00 UTC 12 June and 03:00 - 04:00 UTC 13 June
 RSGB 80 m Club Championship, CW: 19:00 - 20:30 UTC 12 June
 NCCC Sprint Ladder: 02:30 - 03:00 UTC 14 June
 All Asian DX Contest, CW: 00:00 UTC 15 June to 24:00 UTC 16 June
 West Virginia QSO Party: 16:00 UTC 15 June to 02:00 UTC 16 June
 Kid's Day Contest: 18:00 - 23:59 UTC 15 June
 Feld Hell Sprint: 20:00 - 22:00 UTC 15 June
 Run for the Bacon QRP Contest: 01:00 - 03:00 UTC 17 June

One Hundred and Two New Radio Amateurs

Congratulations to the one hundred and two candidates who passed the May 2013 Radio Amateur Examination. A total of 130 persons enrolled but only 116 wrote the exam. The highest average obtained in the exam was 98%. There are three candidates who managed to obtain 100% for the regulations part of the exam. The highest mark for the technical part of the exam was 95%.

The results are published on the SARL web page at www.sarl.org.za. Candidates who passed the Radio Amateur Examination may go on air immediately and actively take part in the hobby. Check the results list on the SARL web to verify the call sign allocated by ICASA. The licensing process takes a month or longer and for this reason ICASA and the SARL have an agreement that candidates who passed may operate immediately after the results are published on the SARL web.

The RAE Manager, Gideon Jannasch, ZS4GJA asked that all the experienced amateurs welcome the new voices and encourage them to take part in every aspect of the hobby, be patient if they struggle in the beginning, they will soon become confident. He issued a challenge to all the newly licensed amateurs to take part in their first big event, the ZS4 Sprint on Sunday 9 June 2013 at 16:00 local time. "We would like to hear you on HF", he said. More information on the ZS4 Sprint can be found in the contest handbook available on the SARL web.

To all the less fortunate candidates who did not pass, do not ever give up, study and try again in the October 2013 examination. Remember to register for the exam. If you have any questions contact the RAE manager at rae@sarl.org.za.

CQ WW Rule Change

CQ World Wide Contest Director, Randy Thompson K5ZD, has posted a set of rule changes on the CQ WW website <http://cqww.com/blog/>. You can download and read them and make comments until 25 June, http://cqww.com/blog/wp-content/uploads/2013/05/cqww_rules_2013_public_draft_31May2013.pdf. Randy hopes that the rule changes will clean up the wording of the rules so they are easier for everyone to understand, including non-English speaking contesters. While the scoring remains unchanged, less popular rules and categories are planned to be replaced with new opportunities for competition. For example, there are new "Classic Single-Op" and "Rookie" overlay categories while the Team Competition and Xtreme categories will be dropped. Log checking penalties will be better-defined and in some cases reduced. The Yellow and Red Card system has itself been DQ'ed. You can read the rules online or download a PDF file. Comments should be submitted by e-mail questions@cqww.com and will be used to improve the wording and revise the Frequently Asked Questions section of the website. The final version of the new rules will be announced on 2 July 2013.



(Continued from page 2)

The Northern Cape ARC thanks everybody that took part and sent in their logs. Congratulations to the winners.

The AWA Valve QSO Party. Here are the results of the first leg of the AWA Valve QSO Party held on 11 and 12 May 2013. There were 42 stations active on AM and 87 stations active on SSB

AM :

- 1st Jerry, ZS6BTL - 201 points
- 2nd Rad, ZS6RAD - 195 points
- 3rd Koos, ZS6BFD - 129 points
- 4th Richard, ZS6TF
- 5th Hennie, ZS6HAV
- 6th Eddie, ZS6BNE
- 7th Denis, ZR6DNS
- 8th Barrie, ZS2NF

SSB:

- 1st Jerry, ZS6BTL - 459 Points
- 2nd Rad, ZS6RAD - 308 Points
- 3rd Hennie, ZS6HAV - 210 Points
- 4th Koos, ZS6BFD
- 5th Abe, ZS1ZS
- 6th Richard, ZS6TF
- 7th Denis, ZR6DNS
- 8th Johan, ZS4DZ
- 9th Barrie, ZS2NF
- 10th Eddie, ZS6BNE

Our congratulations to those who scored the highest points and thanks to all who participated. Certificates will be in the mail soon.

129 participants and only 18 logs submitted! Could it be that the other 111 cannot write? Ed.

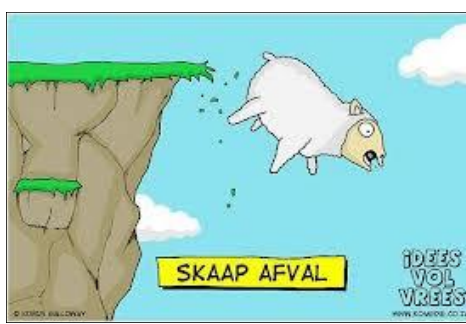
DXCC News

Bill Moore NC1L, the ARRL Awards Branch Manager reports that the following operation is approved for DXCC credit:

VU7KV - Lakshadweep Islands (DXCC entity Code - 142), the May 2013 operation

Note: If anyone had this contact rejected in a recent submission send an e-mail to bmoore@arrl.org to be placed on the list for an update to your record.

Thanks Tjerk, ZS6P



Word to the Wise

What happens to your log if you decide to change categories to a single-band entry halfway through the contest? Can the sponsors sort things out? Yes - if you specify the desired category and leave all of the contacts in your log. In the case of a single-band 40 metre log, CQ WPX Director Terry, N4TZ, says, "Send in the entire log but in the Cabrillo header, make sure it says CATEGORY-BAND: 40M instead of ALL. Leave other QSOs in log so that the other station's log can be cross-checked against yours.

Operating Tip

Here is some good information from the CQ WPX contest's Rules FAQ, http://www.cqwpw.com/rules_faq.htm about the scoring penalties for errors detected during the log checking process. Obviously, not all contests are the same but this is typical of the way most sponsors treat the same logging errors.

Incorrect call sign - loss of that QSO plus an additional penalty of the point value of the QSO

Not in Log - loss of that QSO plus an additional penalty of the point value of the QSO

Incorrect serial number (number in log does not match the number sent by the other station) - loss of that QSO

Duplicate QSO - contact is removed with no additional penalty

Band change error (multi-operator station that violates the band change rules) - loss of all QSOs on that transmitter until it is back in compliance with the band change rules

Operation beyond 36 hours for single operators - Loss of all contacts after the 36 hours of operation (as calculated by the log checking software) has been reached.

(Thanks, Terry N4TZ, CQ WPX Contest Director)

History This Week for the week starting 3 June

781 BC - First total solar eclipse reliably recorded by Chinese

1070 - Roquefort cheese created in a cave near Roquefort, France

1752 - Ben Franklin's Kite is struck by lightning - what a shock!

1783 - Montgolfier brothers launch 1st hot-air balloon (unmanned)

1873 - The name of De Beer's New Rush is changed to Kimberley, in honour of the Earl of Kimberley, the British minister of colonies.

1882 - Electric iron patented by Henry W. Seely, New York City

1900 - The battle of Roodewal Siding takes place near Koppies, OFS. Gen. De Wet and eighty men attack two companies (172 men) guarding a train and supplies. Eight British soldiers are killed; twenty-four wounded and between 500 and 600 crates of ammunition are taken

1900 - British troops enter Pretoria and Lord Roberts captures the capital of the ZAR

1912 - US army tests first machine gun mounted on a plane

1940 - the evacuation of Allied forces from Dunkirk ends as German forces capture the beach port

1977 - First personal computer, the Apple II, goes on sale

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newline, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News and Southgate ARC News

HF Happenings

HF_Happenings-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

